

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.	0666.1760002/TGD/EDH
First Inventor	Akihiro Ima
Title	See 1 in Addendum
Express Mail Label No.	

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

ADDRESS TO:

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

1. ☒ Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. ☐ Applicant claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. ☒ Specification [Total Pages 23]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
- Descriptive title of the invention
 - Cross Reference to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
4. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 11]
5. Oath or Declaration [Total Sheets 3]
- a. ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)
- b. ☒ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)
- i. ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s)
name in the prior application, see 37 CFR
1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. ☒ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

7. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or
Computer Program (Appendix)
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission
(if applicable, all necessary)
- a. ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
- b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
- i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
- ii. ☐ Paper
- c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

9. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement ☒ Power of
(when there is an assignee) Attorney
11. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
12. ☒ Information Disclosure ☐ Copies of IDS
Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Citations
13. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
14. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16. ☐ Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122
(b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35
or its equivalent.
17. ☒ Other: Authorization under 37CFR 1.136(a)(3)

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: 10/448,369

Prior application information:

Examiner

Dirk Wright

Art Unit: 3681

For CONTINUATION OF DIVISIONAL APPS only; The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☒ Customer Number: 26111 OR ☐ Correspondence address below

Name			
Address			
City	State	Zip Code	
Country	Telephone	Fax	

Name (Print/Type)	Tracy Gene G. Durkin	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,831
Signature	<i>Tracy G. Durkin</i>	Date	3/29/04

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

13281
032904

PTO/SB/17 (10-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 770.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	To Be Assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Akihiro Ima
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Art Unit	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket No.	0666.1760002/TGD/EDH

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☒ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☒ Other** ☐ None

☒ **Charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments in Deposit Account: the fees to Deposit Acct. No. 19-0036

Deposit Account Number
Deposit Account Name

19-0036

Sterne Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☒ Credit any overpayments

☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001 770	2001 385	Utility filing fee	
1002 340	2002 170	Design filing fee	770.00
1003 530	2003 265	Plant filing fee	
1004 770	2004 385	Reissue filing fee	
1005 160	2005 80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)			(\$ 770.00)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
3	20	0	
1	3	0	
Multiple Dependent			

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20
1201 86	2201 43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 290	2203 145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 86	2204 43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ -0-		

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification	
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252 420	2252 210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253 950	2253 475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254 1,480	2254 740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255 2,010	2255 1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401 330	2401 165	Notice of Appeal	
1402 330	2402 165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403 290	2403 145	Request for oral hearing	
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453 1,330	2453 665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501 1,330	2501 665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502 480	2502 240	Design issue fee	
1503 640	2503 320	Plant issue fee	
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809 770	2809 385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810 770	2810 385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801 770	2801 385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ -0-

SUBMITTED BY

(Complete if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	Tracey Gene G. Durkin	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,831	Telephone	(202) 371-2600
Signature	<i>Tracey G. Durkin</i>	Date	3/24/04		

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Heidi L. Kraus
Edward W. Yee
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowit
Peter A. Jackman
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaston
Kimberly N. Reddick
Theodore A. Wood

Elizabeth J. Haanes
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Lhulier
Rae Lynn Pengaman
Jane Shershenovich*
Lawrence J. Carroll*
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein*
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht
Andrea J. Kamage
Tracy L. Muller*
LuAnne M. DeSantis
John J. Figueroa
Ann E. Summerfield
Tiera S. Coston*
Aric W. Ledford*

Michael D. Specht
Jessica L. Parezo
Timothy A. Doyle*
Cynthia M. Bouchez
Nicole D. Dretar*
Ted J. Ebersole
Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Helene C. Carlson
Gaby L. Longsworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Mary B. Tung
Katrina Y. Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman

Teresa A. Colella
Jeffrey S. Lundgren
Victoria S. Rutherford
Eric D. Hayes
Michelle K. Holoubek
Robert H. DeSelms
Simon J. Elliott
Julie A. Heider
Mita Mukerjee
Scott M. Woodhouse
Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Evan R. Smith
Marvin C. Guthrie
*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
•Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

March 29, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8660
INTERNET ADDRESS:
TDURKIN@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop: Patent Application

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. *To Be Assigned*; Filed: Herewith
(*Continuation of Appl. No. 10/448,369; Filed: May 30, 2003*)
For: **Multi-Wheel-Drive Vehicle with a Front Transaxle Device**
Inventor: Akihiro Ima
Our Ref: 0666.1760002/TGD/EDH

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. PTO Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17);
2. PTO Utility Patent Application Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/05);
3. A continuation of U.S. Utility Application 10/448,369, entitled:

Multi-Wheel-Drive Vehicle with a Front Transaxle Device

naming as inventor:

Akihiro IMA

the application consisting of:

- a. A specification containing:
 - i. 19 pages of description prior to the claims;

- ii. 3 pages of claims (7 claims);
 - iii. a one page abstract;
- b. 11 sheets of drawings (Figures 1-11);
- c. A copy of the executed Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application, as filed in U.S. Appl. No. 10/448,369; and
- d. An Application Data Sheet;
- 4. A Preliminary Amendment;
- 5. Substitute Specification Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.125(b);
- 6. Substitute Specification Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.125(b) - Version with Markings to Show Changes Made;
- 7. Authorization to Treat A Reply As Incorporating An Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3);
- 8. Information Disclosure Statement;
- 9. Form PTO/SB/08a citing nine (9) references;
- 10. Two (2) return postcards; and
- 11. PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form authorizing a charge in the amount of \$770.00 to cover the filing fee.

It is respectfully requested that, of the two attached postcards, one be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier, and the other, prepaid postcard, be stamped with the filing date and unofficial application number and returned as soon as possible.

Commissioner for Patents
March 29, 2004
Page 3

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tracy G. Durkin", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,831

TGD/EDH/nar
Enclosures (*with confirmation*)

245373

Addendum

- 1. Multi-Wheel-Drive Vehicle With A Front Transaxle Device**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Akihiro Ima

Appl. No.: *To Be Assigned* (Continuation
of App. No. 10/448,369; Filed: May 30,
2003)

Filed: Herewith

For: **Multi-Wheel-Drive Vehicle with a
Front Transaxle Device**

Art Unit: *To Be Assigned*

Examiner: *To Be Assigned*

Atty. Docket: 0666.1760002/TGD/EDH

**Authorization to Treat a Reply as Incorporating an
Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3)**

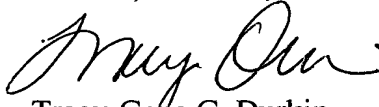
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge all required extension of time fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036, if such fees are not otherwise provided for in such reply.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,831

Date: March 29, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600
245397